

I call on you to hold an official public hearing in my state.

Before the disastrous 2003 decision to weaken media ownership rules (which a federal court has now overturned), you held only one official public hearing. Further, FCC officials met behind closed doors 71 times with major broadcasters – but only five times with public interest groups. And to justify your actions, you used deceptive, industry-sponsored research data.

The will of Big Media had been heeded at the expense of American citizens and democracy itself. This has to end. Before you rewrite the ownership rules, I demand an official public FCC hearing in my state, impartial and verifiable research, and transparent debates.

It is time to put the needs of democracy – a diverse, skeptical, independent and competitive media system – ahead of profit-hungry media giants.

Before the FCC starts setting rules again for media ownership you need to listen to the people first and the corporations second. Stop sucking up to corporate America on every issue. It is bad enough today as you only get sound bites on what is really going on in this country. The real story is not being told. Corporate America is responsible for that. If it is something they don't want you to see, they just don't show it or talk about it. We need more public stations and fewer corporate controlled monopolies.